(b) The Government of Mizoram reported fall in price of ginger in 1986 at Aizawal mainly due to decline in the price of ginger due to increase in production. A report to this effect has also been received from West Bengal.

(c) & (d) As a measure to ensure reasonable price to ginger growers, Central Government has approved the Mizoram Government's proposal for market intervention operation to be carried out by the State Government through Mizoram Cooperative Marketing Federation. West Bengal Government has also announced a price intervention scheme for the benefit of ginger growers.

Cauvery River Projects

*232. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
SHRI K. GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the projects of the Cauvery river and its tributaries which are pending clearance from the Central Government on account of the non-settlement of the water dispute among the concerned States; and

(b) what is the year in which the plan report in respect of each project was submitted and also what action has been taken on each report ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the house [*see* Appendix (XXXIX Annexure no. 62]

Losses of Public Sector Fertilizer Plants

*233. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector fertilizer plants in the country have shown huge losses during 1985-86; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps contemplated by Government to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILON) : (a) No Sir; of the Public Sector Undertakings under this Department, only three namely, Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) and Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) incurred losses of Rs. 128·60 crores Rs. 72.70 crores and Rs. 5.35 crores respectively, during 1985-86. The other undertakings earned profit during the year. The losses of FC were due to unforeseen accidents in the Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher plants. HFC's plants suffered loss of production because of equipment and power problems. As regard MFL, this Company has been constantly earning profits prior to 1984-85. However, during 1985-86 there was production shortfall due to equipment problems, problems of contract labour and high inventory cost because of low off-take of fertilizers due to adverse wheather conditions.

(b) This Department reviews the performance of the under takings regularly and corrective measures, where necessary, are taken.